

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 03924 261802Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 MCT-01
INRE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 PA-02 SYE-00
/048 W

-----060311 261806Z /50

Z 261739Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 7567

UNCLAS BOGOTA 3924

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: ASEC, CO
SUBJECT: INCIDENT AT EMBASSY

1. AT APPROXIMATELY 1030 THIS MORNING A COLOMBIAN WHO HAD GAINED ENTRANCE TO THE BUILDING WITH HIS WIFE AND CHILD THREATENED TO KILL THEM AND COMMIT SUICIDE HIMSELF IF HE WERE NOT TAKEN TO THE US. HE IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF A COLOMBIAN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION AT ONE TIME. HIS NAME IS SOCRATES MUNOZ TORRES. EMBASSY SECURITY PERSONNEL SPENT OVER ONE HOUR ATTEMPTING TO REASON WITH HIM AND CONCLUDED THAT HE WAS MENTALLY UNBALANCED. THEY WERE ABLE TO DISARM HIM OF A TABLE KNIFE AND TO REMOVE HIS CHILD FROM DANGER. COLOMBIAN POLICE AUTHORITIES WERE CALLED TO THE SCENE. MUNOZ WAS PERSUADED TO LEAVE THE BUILDING AND WAS TURNED OVER TO COLOMBIAN POLICE IN THE COURTYARD OF THE CHANCERY. POLICE ACTION UNFORTUNATELY WAS INEFFECTIVE, AND EMBASSY SECURITY PERSONNEL AND MARINES SEVERAL TIMES HAD TO HELP BRING THE INDIVIDUAL UNDER CONTROL THEMSELVES WHEN HE GOT OUT OF THE HANDS OF THE POLICE. MUNOZ EVEN SUCCEEDED IN ESCAPING FROM POLICE PATROL CAR AS IT WAS DRIVING HIM AWAY FROM THE EMBASSY BUT HE WAS QUICKLY RECAPTURED.

2. THE SCUFFLING WITH THE INDIVIDUAL IN THE EMBASSY COURTYARD AND NEAR THE GATE WAS OBSERVED BY LARGE
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CROWDS OF COLOMBIANS AND PRESS. WE EXPECT THE INCIDENT WILL ATTRACT CONSIDERABLE PUBLICITY AND WE WILL HAVE A STATEMENT ON HAND GIVING THE FACTS OF THE CASE AS OUTLINED ABOVE.

3. AT ONE POINT IN THE SCUFFLING, MUNOZ GRABBED AT A WEAPON HELD BY ONE OF THE POLICEMEN AND IT DISCHARGED ONE ROUND INTO

THE AIR. MUNOZ HANDS WERE CUT IN THE STRUGGLE TO KEEP THE WEAPON
OUT OF HIS HANDS BUT THERE WERE NO OTHER INJURIES TO ANYONE.
ASENCIO

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BOGOTA03924
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780178-0920
Format: TEL
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780417/aaaaanpn.tel
Line Count: 65
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b655bca7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2848389
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INCIDENT AT EMBASSY
TAGS: ASEC, CO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b655bca7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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